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*A.*—(*a*) The investigation will be undertaken by a special division proposed to be formed from 1st April 1929 for the investigation of proposals for the extension of irrigation in the Kistna delta consequent on the installation of six feet shutters over the Kistna anicut.

(*b*) An area of 35,000 acres of short crop and 4,000 acres of long crop is expected to be brought under irrigation under the proposed extension of irrigation referred to above. A portion of this extension will be under the East bank canal. The exact area will be determined after the investigation has been completed.

*Proposed transfer of draughtsmen and overseers from Bezwada Circle to Cauvery-Mettur Project.*

* 1376 *Q.*—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to transfer any of the permanent draughtsmen, overseers or clerks from Bezwada Circle to Cauvery-Mettur Project and, if so, how many men are to be transferred;

(*b*) whether there is any Government Order that appointments in the subordinate grades should be on a linguistic basis, and if so, whether that Government Order would be adhered to in drafting men to Mettur;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a knowledge of Tamil, the mother tongue of the labourers and workmen at Mettur, is essential on the part of the subordinate staff for the satisfactory discharge of their duties;

(*d*) if so, whether Government have considered the advisability of transferring only Tamil-knowing men to Mettur; and

(*e*) how many men on the permanent staff in Bezwada Circle belong to the southern districts and whether they would be preferred to Andhras in selecting men for transfer to Mettur?

*A.*—(*a*) The Engineer-in-Chief, Cauvery-Mettur Project, has been authorized by Government to choose the subordinate executive and clerical staff required for the project from the permanent establishment of all the Public Works Department circles. It is possible that some men from the Bezwada Circle have been chosen by the Engineer-in-Chief.

(*b*) There is a Government order that public offices should as far as possible be manned by persons speaking the language of the areas in which the offices are The order is based on considerations for the interests of the public doing business with the offices.

(*c*) The Government do not think so.

(*d*) Please see answer to clause (*c*).

(*e*) The Government have no information in regard to the number of men on the permanent staff of the Bezwada Circle belonging to the southern districts. The Engineer-in-Chief in making his selection doubtless takes the language question into consideration, but the Government presume that the capacity of the officials would be a more important determining factor.

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Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to communicate this question and answer to the Engineer-in-Chief, Cauvery-Mettur Project ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Certainly, Sir."

## Land Revenue

*Failure of crops in Palghat taluk.*

* 1377-A *Q.*—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that due to the failure of the north-eastern monsoons the second crop has almost completely failed in Palghat taluk ;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to make any remission of revenue on account of this failure ; and

(*c*) whether they propose to consider the question of undertaking irrigation works in the Palghat taluk or any other portion of Malabar in the immediate future ?

*A.*—(*a*) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.

(*b*) Save where the second crop has been compounded for, remission is granted for its loss under the ordinary rules, and no orders of Government are required.

(*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 909 on 29th November 1928. The position remains unchanged.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" Is the hon. Member in possession of information not given so far in respect of the failure of crops in Palghat ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I have none."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" May I know why Government says, 'Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.' Is there any implication that the facts as suggested are not true ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" There is no implication except that the Government are not aware of the facts stated."

*Failure of second crops in Palghat taluk.*

* 1377-B *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the rainfall has been very much below the normal this year in the Palghat taluk and whether the Government have received any report from the local authorities about it ;

(*b*) whether the first paddy crop in that taluk was defective and whether the second crop has completely failed ; and

(*c*) whether there are any recommendations for remission of kist, and if so, to what effect ?

*A.*—(*a*) The rainfall recorded at 3 rainguage stations in the Palghat taluk from June to December 1928 averaged 58 inches the normal being 78 inches. The Season Reports for December stated that in that taluk the supply of water was insufficient.